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Master to leave in Spring

By CHRISTINE L. GOMES

Maurice Elliott will be leaving his post as Master of Winters College in July 1988. Although his teaching schedule will be concluded at the end of the fall term, he will remain at his post until the end of the winter term. Before he leaves one of his final duties will be to oversee Spring Convocation.

Elliott has been Master of Winters College for eight years. Although the normal term for Master is only five years, he was reviewed in 1985 by the President's Office and asked to stay on for three more years. Elliott will be taking a one-year sabbatical, starting in July, after his replacement has settled in. He feels that he has not been preparing sufficiently for a sabbatical and concedes that the initial part of his leave will be occupied with thinking of future plans.

After attending a conference in Ulster in July, Elliott said that he may write a biography of Samuel Taylor Coleridge or a book on Irish women writers. Purely for his own interest, he indicated a desire to read all of Chekhov in the original Russian. On completion of his leave, Elliott will be returning to York as Professor of English.

In regard to Elliott's replacement, the Provost will be calling together a committee this week to discuss the candidates for the position. This

committee will include two Fellows of Winters College, one student representative, one staff member, as well as several other members. The committee will meet and review the candidates and the appointment of Winters' new Master should be forthcoming early in the new year.

Elliott admitted that he had offered a "list of eight or nine" candidates whom he felt were "perfectly adequate" for the position, but noted that he has no real say in who his successor shall be. He did, however, express a desire that the appointment should come from within the college. He explained that because of the unique nature of Winters, choosing a Master from outside the College might prove difficult for the successful candidate, because of the adjustment period required to get accustomed to the college.

Some may view this wish as Elliott's desire to maintain the "fiefdom" or the position of the "tyrant" which, he says, are conceptions of Winters College and its Master espoused by outsiders. Because of his role as a member of the College Council, he says, some people see him as a dictator wanting to control all aspects of his college. He disagrees, stating that he is as equal a member of the Council as any other elected person.

Elliott, through his stint as Master, has introduced many innovations which have benefitted his col-

lege, including the Science Symposium, weekly poetry readings, and the Bookroom. Through these offerings, Elliott has tried to make Winters College a unique place for its students. Because it houses the Mature Students Association and is the only college having a Winter/Summer term, Elliott feels a need for greater contact with the students. As a result, high visibility on Council and at other college events has been a personal priority.

The relationship which he has with Winters students, especially with his Council, will be severed somewhat when he leaves. Council members expressed dismay at the prospect of Elliott's departure, and said that they would want someone "exactly like Maurice," if they were given a choice. Marco Alla, Winters' Social and Cultural Representative, noted that he (Elliott) "makes you feel comfortable," and that "he has a subtle way of showing you a mistake without actually making you feel that you'd been wrong in the first place." Similar plaudits came from former Commuter Students Representative Wendy Dingham, who described Elliott as a "key mover." Her regret is that "you hate to lose someone who is so supportive."

Despite all the consternation, Maurice Elliott will be leaving at the end of this school year, and in his own words, "Nobody's irreplaceable, nobody's indispensable."

Radio York gets levy hike

By GARRY H. MARR

In an October 28 referendum, York University students have overwhelmingly approved an increase in the student levy for CHRY (Radio York), from \$2.00 to \$4.50. The vote was 576 yeas, and 70 no, with no spoiled ballots.

CHRY Station Manager Mel Broitman said, "It is an excellent turnout," especially when compared to the turnout for student government elections that draw only slightly more interest. Broitman indicated that he was "satisfied throughout" with the voter turnout, despite the traditional voting apathy at York, and the fact that the referendum had to be rescheduled because of the recent York University Staff Association strike.

York Provost Tom Meininger said, "For the kinds of things we're talking about, (the student levy) compares favourably (with other universities)." Meininger added, "We are not out of line (with the student levy) in any respect." York's total student levy comes to \$53.00 (plus various athletic fees) per full-time student per year. Broitman revealed that CHRY was operating on the premise that the students would approve the levy increase. "Things would have been very grim if we lost. We planned everything on the referendum passing," said Broitman.

CHRY operates on a budget of about \$150,000, of which \$100,000 comes from guaranteed funding. As a non-profit organization, CHRY is, in Broitman's words, "always just getting by." The biggest expense for Radio York has been the cost of setting up for this first year with an FM license. The initial cost of a transmitter was \$55,000, and the equipment is "never state-of-the-art," said Broitman.

As there are only three full-time people working at the 24-hour radio station, the bulk of Radio York's support comes from volunteers. The number of volunteers has been very high, and Broitman said, "There are more volunteers than we can absorb." The majority of these volunteers are York students, but many people come from the community to get involved in the station.

Radio York serves as a voice for York and the surrounding commun-

ity. The news department focuses on North York events while the sports department broadcasts many of the Yeowomen and Yeomen games. The station's music policy is to represent the tastes of the surrounding community.

"Our mandate is to serve the minority," says Broitman. Broitman sees Radio York as an 'alternative' to alternative stations. Over 25% of their music is black oriented music

including jazz, blues and rap. It is this type of alternative programming that secured them a radio license on an already crowded FM dial.

Radio York started broadcasting on October 13 and Broitman says that he has been "delightfully surprised" by the reception the station

has received in the community. He also indicated that "progress has been tremendous" and thinks it will continue.

Refugee bill protested

By DARYL SHADRACK

On the night of October 21st, members of the Somali Community protested at the St. Lawrence Centre against proposed immigration Bills C-55 and C-84 at a Forum co-sponsored by the Inter-Clinic Immigration Work Group and Centre Stage Forum.

Both bills, which were recently passed by the House of Commons and are currently under review by the Senate, are the Federal Government's response to an increase in refugee claimants from 3,050 in 1981 to 18,000 in 1986, and a projected increase to 25,000 claimants for 1987. The proposed legislation is supposed to preserve access for genuine refugees. According to Raphael Girard, Co-ordinator of the Refugee Determination Task Force, Bill C-55's purpose is to "single out genuine claimants, and Bill C-84's is to deter fraud."

W. Angus and J. Hathaway charge that the proposed legislation is in clear violation of a fundamental obligation under international refugee law. . . . According to Barbara Jackman, an immigration lawyer, "We are completely violating the United Nation convention for the first time since 1969."

The convention Ms. Jackman refers to is cited in Angus and Hathaway's article which states: "One hundred nations including Canada, have agreed that if a person can show that she or he faces the prospect of persecution on the ground of race, religion, nationality, social group, or

political opinion, that person should be protected from a forced return to his or her country of origin."

As pointed out by Assistant Professor Ian Greene of York's Political Science Department, Bill C-55 puts "severe restrictions on the right to appeal and is probably unconstitutional with regard to the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Sec. 7 and the Bill of Rights, Sec. 1E." He also stated that Bills C-55 and C-84 are like a trick Hallowe'en apple, because the Government says they'll do one thing when in fact they do something quite different."

Professor Greene also said that Bill C-55 will prevent many legitimate refugees from applying for refugee status, because many countries through which refugees presently make their way to Canada may, in the future, be considered "safe" countries. This will occur, because the Bill stipulates that no refugee will be accepted if she or he arrives from a safe country, and as a result many legitimate claimants may be turned away.

Concurring with Professor Greene, Michael Langevin, Sociologist and Director of the Refugee Programme at York, said that "the legislation is not a good alternative because it's possible that refugee claimants may be sent back indirectly to the country of persecution."

With regard to deterring refugees from Canadian borders, Langevin asked, "How many people are we indirectly condemning to an uncertain existence or possibly death?"